DWBULLETIN

SEP

THE MONTHLY NEWS-'ZINE 14

AFRO-TAPES...

DO THEY EXIST ??

A dramatic new development in the saga of the missing episodes emerged during the summer when DWB was contacted by a reader, who wishes to remain annonymous, with the following information :

"Someone from Kenya was interviewed on British TV recently and said the TV there is so old that they are showing Patrick Troughton episodes of DOCTOR WHO. Enquiries were made and it seems they had the first two Troughton seasons back in the '60s. Now the BBC is hoping to recover them and it's looking good."

As a result, I contacted J.Jeremy Bentham who liases closely with the BBC Archives to see if this news had any substance and I am grateful to him for the following information :

"So far nothing has been returned to the BBC since the recent handings over of Toymaker/4 & Wheel/3. The country about which speculation exists over finding all three seasons of Troughton (or even just odd remaining episodes) is Nigeria, not Kenya. What sparked it off was an interview on a Radio 2 magazine programme with a technician (from this country) who is involved in setting up a satellite education/communications system to Nigeria. It was he who revealed how backward Nigerian TV was,being all black-and-white with the most recent DR WHOs (as a comparison with our network) being those with Troughton in. Steve Bryant checked up on this and indeed the BBC did purchase the Troughtons years ago. The problem, however, is twofold. Firstly there are no less than '32' TV stations in Nigeria, some of them literally tin shacks in the middle of the desert. So any episodes to Nigeria would have done the rounds many times since the '60s, so finding who has them now would be a major task, which leads us

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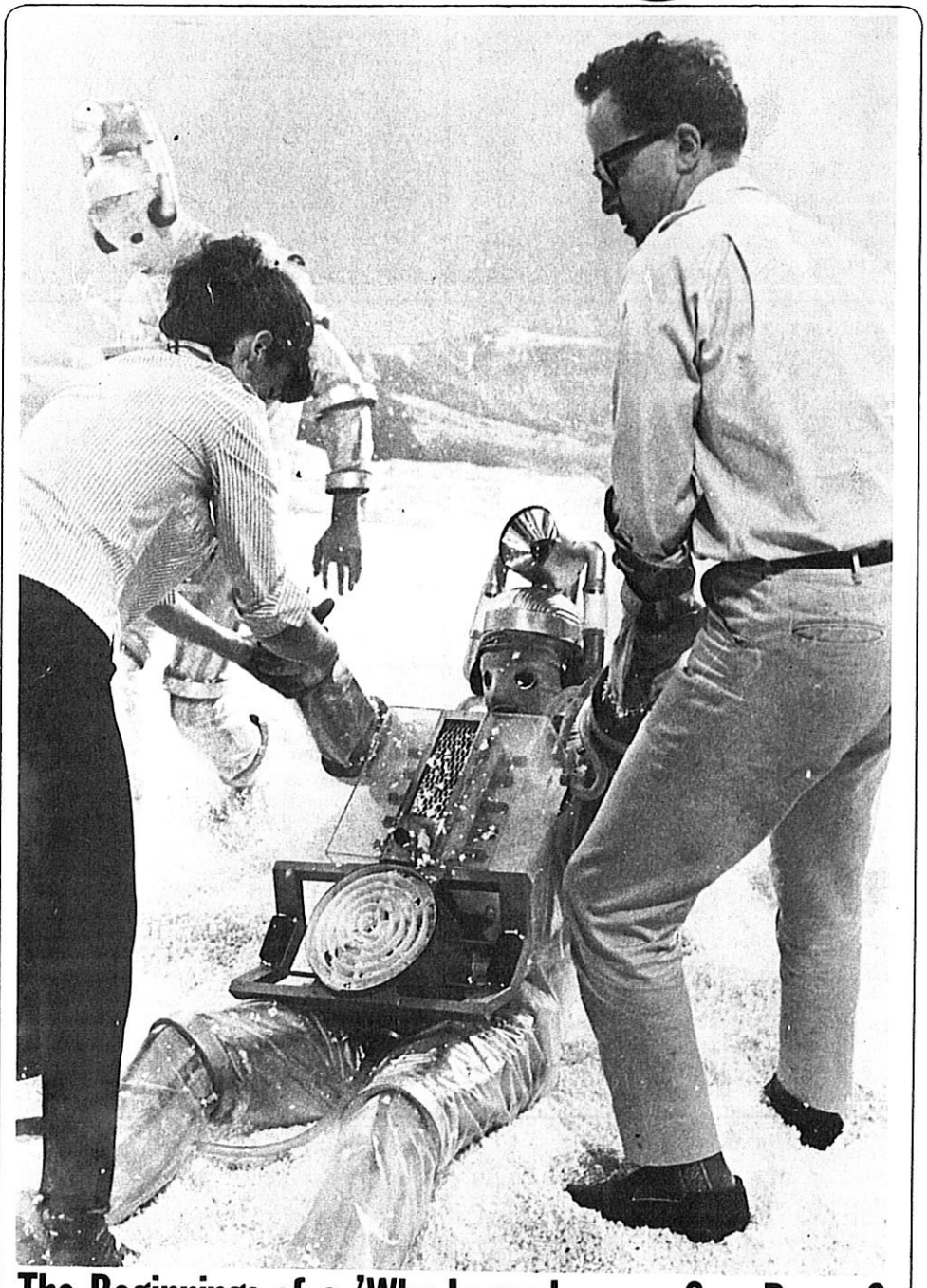

EXCLUSIVE JN-T INTERVIEW

Inside...

The Beginnings of a 'Who Legend ... See Page 9

GARY LEVY
5 WHITEGATE GARDENS
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With Summer now over, DWB resumes its normal monthly service up to Christmas which should see the release of the 'DWB Winter Special', following the phenomenal success of issue 12/13. In all about one thousand two hundred copies have so far been sold, a far cry to exactly a year ago when issue one materialised in 'For - bidden Planet'...all 55 of them (with a hastily reprinted 45 to follow) ! The question many people have asked in their letters is "You've come as far as you can go, how do you beat that ?" Well, this issue might lack a bit of colour but it does feature contributions from a few well known names behind DOCTOR WHO, some popular writers from fandom and also a couple of new names to prevent us from stagnating. So I hope you'll agree former standards have been maintained, if not , surpassed, and I can also promise one or two extra surprises in the coming months! So stick with DWB...

Issues 1-9 (inclusive) are now totally out of print. Although I have had an offer to reprint a 'Greatest Hits' issue , unless someone is prepared to take over full control in doing this (which includes printing, administration, distribution and financing) then this can't evolve. Preparing the current issue of DWB every month is already enough work without delving into past issues. Therefore, the offer in this column of issue 10 is still open to volunteers...

Apologies to everyone who received DWB 12/13 2nd instead of 1st class due to last minute economies when it was decided to purchase two extra colour photos. I'm sure nobody minded in hindsight having to wait an extra couple of days for bonus colour photos (yes, BBC fees are very expensive !!).

I, personally, thought 'The Five Drs' , in its revised four episode format, was a complete shambles. The abrupt cliffhang - ers were, of course, unavoidable, almost as silly as the contrived endings of 'The Twin Dilemma', not helped by terribly corny and cliche script-editing a la Saw- ard which seemed to suffer even more in this format for some reason. In hindsight I'm prepared to admit I was premature in over-praising this story after its initi- al showing and wonder how many other peo- ple have changed their attitudes having seen the repeat ?

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STEVE ROGERS, Beccles, SUFFOLK
And here's the new DWB Top 10 for issue - 12/13, 1984:

10)RADIOPHONIC WORKSHOP, 9)ROY SKELTON INTERVIEW, 8)SEASON 21 POSTER, 7)LETTERS, 6)NEWS, 5)LOOK AHEAD TO SEASON 22, 4)CHA- RACTER ASSESSMENT, 3)FIVE DOCTORS POLL,2) GRAHAM WILLIAMS ERA, 1)COLOUR PHOTOS.

Bubbling just under the Top 10 we have Ian Garrard's comic-strip and the Target Diary/Review.

Returning to sanity I'd just like to say that I think DWB has hit an all-time high, congratulations to all concerned.

The poll was not all that surprising , except for the unbelievable placing of 'Warriors of the Deep' as 3rd All - Time Clanger. How under-rated can you get !

PAUL HASSALL, Crewe, CHESHIRE
Another splendid issue, packed solid with the usual excellent articles and features —especially the superb photos (loved the Pertwee ones !). And a gem of a poster from Dave Miller, his second best yet, (next to his Troughton one of course !) . Also enjoyed the 'Resurrection' strip , although when this series first started I thought I would hate it but now I love them. Please DO increase the letters page as I, personally, enjoy reading other co- mments and views that people have.

KEITH WEST, Wormley, HERTS
Honestly, what can I say ? From little acorns indeed... DWB 12/13 looked abso - lutely marvellous and, as you suggested - about the photos being unbublished(sounds like me after a pint or two)in the edito- rial, certainly I'd never seen any of them before, and very impressive they were as well. If DWB keeps going at its present rate, you'll be outdoing the ODWM (come to think of it you probably are al- ready), which, for some time, has been lots of nice, pretty pictures and not much else. Keep up the good work, you're doing a fantastic job !

EDWARD KING, Roundhay, LEEDS
Having bought DWB:3 some time ago, I must admit that I wasn't too impressed with either the artwork or layout, and found some of the content rather unoriginal , although the news section was excellent in content. Nevertheless, I did not buy another issue till 12/13 came out ... and was I surprised ! The news was still up- to-date and the previous art/articles - gremlins completely vanished.

Following W.H.Allen's clamp-down, I was also very impressed by the book - covers you had managed to obtain.

MIKE TEAGUE, Uxbridge, MIDDLESEX
The quality of both production and con - tent was superb, making it not only the best issue of DWB, but also one of the best fanzines I've ever seen.

As usual, Stephen Glancy's page was very interesting and the comments made were stimulating if not all agreeable. I agree that a return to topical issues in- spiring the storylines would be a good thing, handled well of course. Personally I would like to see one on the political intervention of religion—not an attack on religion itself, but on those who are supposedly 'holy men' who use their reli- gious status merely to increase their own power. In a way, 'Planet of Fire' was a subtle attack on the abuse of religion.

David Miller's poster was 'excellent' , far superior to the cover of the DWAS season synopsis which even has a Season 20 Master photo for reference, work that one out !

The poll results were very interesting. I think you were absolutely right not to allow people to vote for stories they haven't seen. I really get annoyed when people say what a good or bad story some- thing is, only to find they've never seen it but just read the book !

STEPHEN TURNOCK, Stoke-on-Trent, STAFFS
DWB is, without doubt, the best DR WHO publication on the market. The news is always original and very interesting and your colour photos were great. All your features were good but the Graham Willi - ams article was my favourite. At last his sadly under-rated era has been defended,I agree 100% with all John Riley said.

Now onto what I did not like-I wish you would get rid of Ian Garrard's strip ! I love humour but Mr Garrard's is insulting and mildly offensive. If he has such a cynical attitude about the programme WHY does he bother to watch it ? Surely he can't be watching for enjoyment ?

SAUL NASSÉ, Parkstone Close, BEDFORD
I thought you were going to lighten your workload over the summer but, obviously, the reverse was true ! Production was, of course, your best yet, and you used the colour to superb effect with unseen photos. Despite this, I wouldn't rate this issue as the best. The poll results took up too much room, although I liked the extended letters pages (especially as I'm becoming almost a regular on it !) . Probably what left me feeling dissatis - fied was that your news:articles ratio was probably the lowest yet, which is odd as there was a lot of news which could've been expanded upon. I'd keep the special annual.

MARK LENTON, Grenoside, SHEFFIELD
Thanks alot for 12/13 which was fab but why did you not splash out on some colo - ured letraset to put on the full colour - pages and why has the poster on page 13 got a massive lump of white letratone in the middle of it ? These are the only faults I can find, however, though you do go a little wild with the letraline tapes on the cover. Sorry about this nitpicking —DWB's still the best produced amateur zine around and the only one to have done justice on 'Androzani'—it was 'brill',so nearly perfect.

TREVOR LAMBERT, Doncaster, SOUTH YORKS
DWB 12/13 can, I feel, be likened to 'The Planet of Fire'—beautiful production , lots of colour, some interesting moments but also a hash of unconnected (though mostly good) pieces which didn't seem to work and all in all lacking something. Sorry ! It's a pity since the first '3' issues of the new-look were great.

Can I just chuck in my two penny worth on the JN-T debate ? The funny thing is that whilst the 'fans', who know nothing about TV production, say he is a bad pro- ducer, the people who work with him (the people who know about these things) say what a good producer he is. Secondly, why on earth do people complain about JN-T bringing in new-blood—perhaps they for- get that people die / move on away from the programme. There has to be someone to replace them. JN-T is doing the right thing by trying out new writers and dir - ectors NOW, rather than when it is too late. Remember, even Robert Holmes was 'new-blood' at one time.

ALAN HAYES, Plumstead, LONDON
Judging by the news that has surfaced , concerning Season 22, it seems we are in for rather an unoriginal first 3 stories (at least). 'Attack' obviously includes the return of the Cybermen (now no more than a grotesque charicature of their former selves) and Maurice Colbourne re- turns as Lytton (is JN-T trying to create another arch-villain for the Doc ?). The 3rd story looks set to be a tremendous rip-off—'The Two Doctors'—the title alone is totally unoriginal, but the con- tents are so original ! Really, consider- ring that this season has to be JN-T's swansong, he could have gone for some-

thing new, rather than again relying on the ideas of others. Let's hope these returns are not treated as poorly as some that have gone previously: 'Arc' , 'Warriors' and the Cybermen of '5 Drs' being the prime examples. For a producer who started off so well, and introduced one of the best-ever Doctors in the form of Peter Davison, recently, while producing excellent stories, he has dwelled too much on the past, and now seems to be allowing the show to stagnate. Despite this, Nathan-Turner has been an excellent producer, but it is time that new blood was brought in to produce the show.

ADRIAN FARMER, Mickleover, DERBY
Once again you've surpassed yourself , producing the most enjoyable DWB yet in the Summer Special. I hope that this will be repeated in the winter, despite the longer gaps between issues this causes.

The Graham Williams article was an interesting read, although John Riley quite clearly holds a view-point very different from my own. Up until 1977 DOCTOR WHO was the most popular programme among myself and my friends. But by the end of Season 17, only I remained as a regular viewer , as I was sure that the programme would improve. My friends found it childish and bordering on the ridiculous. Many people now say that the Williams years were far more adult than ever before, and perhaps now I could see that, but at the time I found them everything but. The humour reached a point where it was no longer funny and K9 was clearly something for the kids to watch, nothing more. I know that Graham Williams had little choice in changing the direction of the programme , but soaking it in humour wasn't the way.

Too many people slag off JN-T, and admittedly he's made a few clangers, but perhaps a repeat of Season 17 would make people realise that JN-T isn't that bad afterall.

KARL BERRY, Nr Chorley, LANCS
I really don't know how John Riley could write such things as "His style and his humour were adult". It was childish . It relied on Tom Baker making silly stares and saying "Hullo, I'm the Doctor. How about a jelly baby ?" But I agree with some of his article, Williams doesn't deserve all the criticism levelled at him , but he deserves an awful lot of it.

CHAS EARLY, West Wickham, KENT
Yes, Keith Hollinshed, 'City of Death' is a classic ! If you can find a better story (with the possible exception of 'Androids of Tara') from the Williams era you just let me know !

Also, I can't agree that JN-T has done anything much for DOCTOR WHO, except uncover some new talents (Bidmead, Saward, Robinson, Harper), and adding a bit of colour with his Hawaiian shirts !

What...wait...oh no, it isn't... it is ...Stephen Glancy...uughh...arrgghh !!!

FRANK BAND, Crieff, PERTHSHIRE
A marvellous issue with some really good features. I was pleased to see a different view of the Graham Williams era at last. Although I would not agree with all of John Riley's comments, I thoroughly enjoyed some of the Williams stories, in particular the 'Key to Time' series.

JOHN DUTTON, Yeovil, SOMERSET
It should be borne in mind by his critics that we were denied seeing 'Shada' which, from what I have heard, would certainly have joined the ranks of All-Time Classics had it been shown. We would also have been spared having 'Horns of Nimon' as the last serial in both the 17th Season and the Graham Williams era. I can't help think that an important factor in the low opinion most fans hold of Williams, but one which they do not appreciate, is his Graham William's wasn't lucky and has suffered ever since.

SID SMITH, Wallsend, NORTH TYNESIDE
Like Mr. Riley, I too saw the programme from its first transmission and have been a regular viewer ever since. As well as hiding behind the obligatory sofa (a blue cushion actually) there has always been an emphasis on humour within the show,and not just with Troughton. What about that superb bit of joking from Hartnell in The Space Museum when he hides in a Dalek and exclaims in a bizzare impersonation of a Dalek voice: "I am the Master, I fooled them all !" Now, I call that, and many other moments like that downright wacky ! Certainly as wacky as Baker during the period in question.

I also think the claim that Williams didn't care enough about the programme is grossly unfair and insulting. If the current producer is the one that supposedly 'cares' then how does he end up letting the blunders of 'Mawdryn Undead' go out. I mean, they must have been noticed, surely ? I'd much rather not get into slagging various producers and their achievements (or otherwise), but is the Mandrell, Kroll and the Shrievenzale any worse than the Mara (at the end of Kinda) or the Myrka and the crossed-eyed slug !

And speaking of Williams's crimes, remember the recent uproar created when it was suggested the Tardis would be scrapped ? Well, you can imagine watching DOCTOR WHO from 1963, and then in 1970, the Doctor is exiled and the Tardis becomes little more than a glorified component store. Seeing the Doctor dashing around in old cars and reduced to a military boffin is something I shudder at. Watching your favourite time-traveller become little more than a Bruce Lee in evening dress, I reckon, is about as bad as anything Tom Baker (under Williams's influence) is supposed to have done.

Anyway, the point I'm trying to get across, is that each producer makes mistakes. The problem here seems to be the hype that has somehow decided that Graham Williams is the bad guy. As Riley rightly concludes, he was a producer with real innovative ideas and concepts. I do wish fans would think a bit more before simply regurgitating, almost verbatim, the usual well-trodden criticisms against Williams.

MARTIN DONALD, Stoney Road, COVENTRY
I share all the sentiments John Riley expresses in his article, though he forgets that K9 was not above being written out of certain stories. However, I will agree that we were given plausible explanations for these absences—the same can not be said for Nyssa and Kamelion.Graham Williams was not a great 'Who producer , but he was by no means the worst, as many Hartnell stories reveal.

Concerning Patrick Troughton's return , I dare anyone to complain ! Anything that adds to the now depleted stock of Troughton/'Who recordings can only do good . My only fear is that the Holmes, Sontaran and Troughton mix is too ideal—the finished product will have a job to live up to. Afterall, it has 'Androzani' to live up to.

Interesting to note that is you asked everybody to give one choice for their All-Time Classic story then the worthiest stories for such an accolade ('Pyramids of Mars' and 'The Daemons') would have come top (no offence 'Androzani' fans !).

ALAN WRIGHT, LONDON SW2
I was stunned to see 'The Caves of Androzani' voted All-Time Classic story. I found it quite run-of-the-mill except for a few moments when Morgus addressed his asides to the camera, which were downright embarrassing. I must be getting hard to please after 21 years of watching DR WHO!

CAROLE TAPLEY, Crewe, CHESHIRE
As one of the two people who voted Caves of Androzani 1st in the 'Worst Davisons' section (good grief, I am not alone !), I wasn't too keen on the front cover, but I still liked the colour photos.

GARY KAILL, Stoke-on-Trent, STAFFS
Whilst I would agree that 'Androzani' is without doubt an All-Time Classic, there is no way I would class it as the All Time Classic. I realise people are entitled to vote for what they think, but I feel that perhaps some are ignoring the past and concentrating too much on the present. It'll be interesting to see whether it stands the test of time...

SIMON TERRY, Crawley, WEST SUSSEX
Isn't everybody over-reacting just a bit to 'Caves of Androzani' ? Yes, it was an excellent story etc. but I think hindsight is a wonderful thing and if a story is that good then it will show in a few years time. Episodes I detested at first began to grow on me (ie:'Snakedance'),and others waned away ('Mawdryn Undead'). You have the tendency to pick it and forget others whilst it's fresh in the mind. On all other scores I agree with the poll entirely. The All-Time Clangers were just what I would have chosen—'Warriors of the Deep', in my opinion, will still look pretty dire even if unviewed for a thousand years !

GRANT SHAW, West Hallam, DERBY
As a dedicated Patrick Troughton fan, I often find myself in an awkward position; I've only seen him in action '3' times(!) ('3 Drs', '5 Drs' & 'Krotons'), and I was only 5 when he left the programme.Imagine my joy when I was told that my favourite Doctor was returning. It should be interesting to see how the unassuming second Doctor gets (or doesn't get) along with his successor 4 times removed. Now that it has been established that the 1st Law of Time is easily broken, let's see the 6th Doctor meeting some more of his predecessors or even their companions.

LAURENCE PIPER, Hertford, HERTS
The best piece of news at the moment is the return of Troughton and Hines. I have high hopes of this story making up for 'Five Doctors' and also giving Jamie a fair crack of the whip. I've always thought that just having one guest Doctor is a better idea as things don't get so cluttered, and as Robert Holmes is penning it...I can't wait ! This may be the true anniversary tale...

ALAN GREEN, Bexleyheath, KENT
I am very fustrated at the lack of repeats planned by the BBC. I don't think genuine fans will be happy till there is a regular repeat slot based on the 'Five Faces' principle—surely that must be the aim, else why bother to search for lost episodes ?

One thing I am looking forward to is the scheduled 'Two Doctors' story. Let's hope it gives Patrick Troughton and Frazer Hines a really good story and script so that the younger fans can see why people still affectionately remember that era (I know I do). Of course, if we had more repeats, then that would apply to every era of the programme !

DAVID TEE, Bromley, KENT
I have just watched 'King's Demons' for the first time and found it lived up to all my expectations...a load of rubbish ! The only other Davison story I have not seen is 'Time-Flight' and I am told that is worse——Heaven help us !!!

DARREN SPRATT, Erith, KENT
The repeats were disappointing but it was interesting to see 'King's Demons' wasn't a bad tale at all. It stood up quite well when not under the pressure of ending a

The John Nathan-Turner Interview

PART 1

JOHN NATHAN-TURNER'S APPOINTMENT TO PRODUCER OF 'DOCTOR WHO' MORE OR LESS COINCIDED WITH THE EXPLOSION OF INTEREST IN THE SHOW FROM AMERICA, THE LATEST IN THE ENDLESS STREAM OF COUNTRIES TO BECOME HOOKED ON THE SERIES. IN BRITAIN, THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF 'DOCTOR WHO' WAS REACHING AN ALL TIME HIGH AND FANS WERE BECOMING MORE AND MORE CRITICAL IN THEIR VIEWS.

JN-T'S INTENTIONS UPON ASSUMING THE ROLE OF PRODUCER WAS TO STEER THE SHOW AWAY FROM THE OVERINDULGENT COMEDY ELEMENT THAT HAD INFILTRATED THE SHOW DURING GRAHAM WILLIAM'S THREE YEAR REIGN THAT CULMINATED WITH HIS LAST SCREENED STORY-'THE HORNS OF NIMON'. HE ALSO DECIDED TO BRING 'DOCTOR WHO' "INTO THE EIGHTIES" AND IN DOING SO BROUGHT ABOUT MANY CHANGES, SOME OF WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN CRITICISM FROM CERTAIN AREAS OF FANDOM

THIS UNBIASED INTERVIEW IS INTENDED TO GIVE JN-T A MUCH NEEDED OPPURTUNITY TO EXPLAIN ASPECTS OF THE SERIES HE IS CONSTANTLY CRITICISED OVER BY THE EVER UNSATISFIED WORLD OF 'DOCTOR WHO' FANDOM. I HOPE, BY THE END, IT MIGHT ENLIGHTEN SOME PEOPLE AND EVEN MAKE SOME OF THE MORE OUTSPOKEN FANS THINK FIRST BEFORE THEY COMMENCE THEIR TIRESOME "LET'S NIGGLE AT JN-T BECAUSE WE'VE NOTHING BETTER TO DO" ROUTINES.

WHAT WORK WERE YOU INVOLVED IN PRIOR TO BECOMING PRODUCER OF 'DOCTOR WHO' ?

"Prior to being producer, I was Production Unit Manager as it was then called, it is now called Production Associate, for three years and during that time I worked on three seasons of DOCTOR WHO, two and a half series of 'All Creatures Great and Small' and a series of 'Flesh and Blood', apart from helping out a short while on 'Anna Karenina', and also I did 'Angels' during that time."

HOW OFTEN HAD YOU WATCHED 'DOCTOR WHO' IN THE PAST AND HAD YOU ENJOYED IT ?

"I'd watched it right from the beginning but bearing in mind I went into the theatre, it was impossible, because of Saturday afternoon matinees, to keep up with it. But I watched some of the early Hartnell's and some of the Troughton's and then I lost touch with it for quite a long while until I came to work here."

IS THERE ANY ERA IN THE SHOW'S HISTORY YOU ARE PARTICULARLY FOND OF ?

"I think the beauty of the show is I think each era is interesting in its own way. I wasn't mad about, for instance the Pertwee era, when everything was set on Earth simply because I think a science fiction programme automatically requires journeys to other planets. As regards a favourite era, I don't think I really have one, no, because I think they're all so very different."

WERE YOU ISSUED WITH SPECIFIC GUIDELINES BY THE 'HEAD OF SERIES AND SERIALS' AS TO WHAT YOU COULD AND COULDN'T DO, AS HAD HAPPENED TO GRAHAM WILLIAMS THREE YEARS EARLIER ?

"No. I wasn't given any brief whatsoever. I was just told to produce the show and do the best I could."

IN A FEW INTERVIEWS IN YOUR FIRST COUPLE OF YEARS YOU STATED YOU WOULD DO THREE SEASONS AFTERWHICH YOU BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD TIME AT WHICH TO CALL IT A DAY. WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND ?

"Basically the pressure from the various heads of department there have been over the years, and pressure on them from the controllers I guess, or rather the Controller, that they're reasonably happy with what I'm doing, added to which I think that, when I took over the show, I don't think that I was quite as much of a fan as I am now for instance.I think, in retrospect, when I took over I thought three years would be a nice time to stay—I could achieve something in 3 years and then it was time to move onto something else, but it's now become very much a part of my life and a part of my life which I thoroughly enjoy."

MANY FANS NOWADAYS ARGUE THAT THE LONGER YOU STAY IN THE PRODUCER'S SEAT, THE LESS IDEAS YOU WILL HAVE TO OFFER, THUS LEADING THE SHOW INTO STAGNATION. SOME, PERHAPS OVERREACTING, CLAIM THIS WILL ULTIMATELY LEAD TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE SHOW ALTOGETHER?

"I think there possibly is a danger of becoming stale, that's true. With regards to finishing the show I think that is absolute nonsense, I mean the show is so successful now, it's more successful than it's ever been. It produces a lot of revenue for the Corporation in terms of exhibitions, merchandising, novelisations, many other books, not to mention the foreign sales. It has a healthy audience in this country and I don't think there are any plans whatsoever to finish it. With regard to the stag-

nation aspect, I think the show's success relies a great deal on new talent and, as I am staying longer than originally intended, and afterall Barry Letts did five years as well, I have brought in a lot of new directors to the show, and a lot of new writers. I think I am relying a great deal on writers to be innovative in their concepts, rather than in the past where the script - editor and I have tended to dictate more stories. Now I think we are looking more and more to writers and directors to be inven - tive . Within the design side of the corporation there is a welter of talent as yet untapped-new designers, new costume de - signers, make-up designers and visual-effects designers, which I am very keen to introduce to the show for that very reason , so that it doesn't b e c o m e predictable, we don't always have the same designers and artistic people, so there is a constant flow of new talent, even if the head of that talent i s t h e same."

AFTER THE COMPLETION OF SEASON 22 YOU WILL HAVE EQUALLED BARRY LETT'S RECORD OF FIVE YEARS AS PRODUCER AND IN TERMS OF EPISODES YOU WILL HAVE SURPASSED HIM. HAVE YOU DECIDED ON WHETHER Y O U WILL STAY FOR SEASON 23 AND ALSO YOUR LONG-TERM FUTURE ?

"I'm considering it at the moment, I've been asked to stay for another year and I'm considering it. With regard to my long-term future, some of the projects that I'm working on, should t h e y take off, then obviously I'll be torn between a show I love and one that I've devised myself, so that's a problem one's got to face."

WOULD YOU FIND IT HARD BREAKING AWAY FROM THE SCIENCE-FICTION A- SPECT OF THE SERIES INTO SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT ?

"I don't think so really because my interest has never waned in all areas of drama, I mean I am part of the Drama Department, and although I've worked a substantial part of my life now on a science-fiction show I don't think that prevents me from dipping back into something more everyday shall we say."

YOU ALSO HOLD THE RECORD FOR HAVING CAST TWO DOCTORS (THREE I F YOU COUNT THE LATE RICHARD HURNDALL). WERE YOU VERY SURPRISED - AND DISPPOINTED THAT PETER DAVISON DECIDED TO LEAVE AFTER THREE SHORT SEASONS ?

"Yes, I felt Peter could have done at least one more year with -out running the risk of becoming type-cast, but, as has b e e n read everywhere, his reasons were that 'three' he considers t o be his lucky number. He'd done three 'All Creatures', three o f 'Sink or Swim', three 'Holding the Forts' and felt he should go onto something else. I was disappointed, yes, and in fact we had set a deadline at which Peter had to let me know whether he was going to stay for another year and we moved that deadline 3 times to give him more chance to think about it. I don't think anyone was more surprised than I, despite moving the deadlines I felt sure he'd say 'Yes' he'd do another year."

SEASON 21 WON PETER A WHOLE NEW LEGION OF FOLLOWERS WITH H I S MARVELLOUS PERFORMANCES AND, GOING BY THE LETTERS DWB RECEIVES , MOST PEOPLE WERE SORRY TO SEE HIM GO. HAD YOU INTENDED TO DEVE - LOP HIS CHARACTER FURTHER HAD HE DECIDED TO STAY ANOTHER SEASON?

"I think always the character of the Doctor as portrayed by a different actor keeps developing. We did have plans but if y o u are going to ask me what they were I think that's silly to rev - eal because it's not applicable anymore. I know that Peter felt he'd got into his stride in that third season and it would have been nice to have consolidated that characterisation."

SO IDEALLY, REALLY, YOU'D HAVE LIKED HIM TO HAVE STAYED FOR FOUR SEASONS ALTOGETHER ?

"Well, at least another one."

YOUR CHOICE OF COLIN BAKER AS THE SIXTH DOCTOR APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A VERY POPULAR ONE BUT IT HAS TO BE SAID HE SHARES SLIGHTLY MORE THAN A SURNAME WITH HIS PREDECESSOR TWICE REMOVED. WAS THIS DELIBERATE AND, AS SOME PEOPLE HAVE SUGGESTED, WAS THIS TO PRO - VIDE A POPULAR STEREOTYPE TO CATER FOR THE AMERICAN MARKET AS A RESULT OF PETER DAVISON NOT HAVING QUITE GELLED ?

"I don't think it't true, to start with, that Peter didn't - gell with their taste. Bear in mind that Peter hasn't been seen massively in the States so far because of the sales policy that our distributors had cooked up. I think in many areas they ' ve only seen his first season, in a few they've seen the first two, but I don't think anybody yet has seen, officially seen certain- ly, the whole three. No, there's no attempt to create a popular stereotype, what a bizarre idea ! No, it's simply when you are casting a Doctor you have to cast against what has gone before . If you'd followed Colin with Tom, I think, inevitably , people would have compared them-'We don't like this new one because...' whereas Peter next to Tom was a terrific contrast, and consequ - ently from Peter we can contrast yet again. I don't really agree that there are a great deal of similarities between Colin's per- formance and Tom's to be honest."

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED AT THE 'DOCTOR WHO OFFICE', UNION HOUSE IN SHEPHERD'S BUSH ON TUESDAY 28TH AUGUST 1984.

IN PART 2 NEXT ISSUE:JN-T's views on 'Caves of Androzani', 'Twin Dilemma', Old monsters, Continuity errors in 'Five Doctors', '4' part stories, Bringing back old writers, directors and Dudley Simpson, American Conventions, Fandom, Fanzines...

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October , Issue 15

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AFRO-TAPES ...Continued

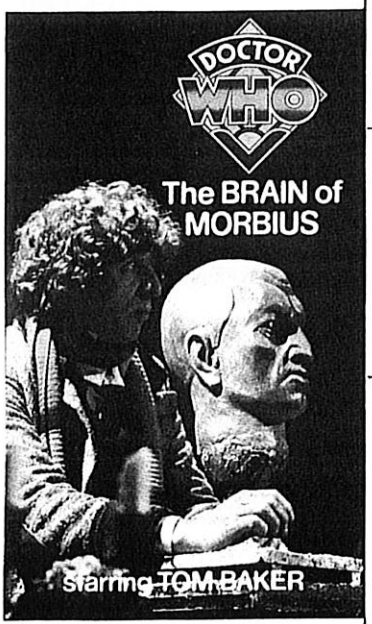
to problem 2. Since the recent Stansted Airport fuss (where the police clobbered the bunch trying to export a kidnappee in a crate) our diplomatic relations with Nigeria have soured somewhat, and all of a sudden the co-operation Steve Bryant had been getting(albeit fairly off the cuff) has cooled. I call it Sod's law myself ...."

Naturally, such a development in the search for missing episodes should be welcomed, but it is early days and the likelihood of these episodes being returned is not 100% certain , and, as Jeremy points out, may prove impossible to retrieve . On a less valid note, a totally annonymous reader sent me the following :

"I have been assured that it is fact, although I have no proof, that 'Tomb of the Cybermen' and 'Abominable Snow-men' were both shown complete in Uganda a few months ago and a member of the Archive's staff has been flown there to retrieve these two, and hopefully other stories."

Whatever the case , evidence suggests that Africa IS the place to hunt for missing DR WHO stories. Indeed,DWB reader Christopher Wallace also made reference in a letter to issue 10 that 'Invasion'(part 4) was apparently returned from a place called Kadoma (in Zimbabwe) not so long ago. It was sent to the BBC but mysteriously never arrived. DWB will keep you updated on any future developments.

BBC VIDEO



Cat. No. BBCV(VHS)/BBCB(BETA)9009
COLOUR RUNNING TIME 60 MINS

Season Info

ATTACK OF THE CYBERMEN: Action for this story is set on Earth (with reference to a certain junkyard in Totters Lane) and on Telos around the tombs of the famous 1967 story. A notable link with 'Tomb of the Cybermen'is that MICHAEL KILGARRIFF, who played the Cyber-Controller, returns to recreate his role in 'Attack of the Cybermen'. Michael was not asked back to 'Wheel in Space' and 'Invasion', possibly because he was taller than the other Cyber-actors and, as the Cyber-Controller had been destroyed, might have looked out of place as an ordinary (6 ft 6 inch) Cyberman. However, he was asked by JN-T to return in 'Earthshock' but had prior commitments. In the past he also played an Ogron in 'Frontier in Space' as well as probably his most difficult role as the Giant Robot.

VENGEANCE ON VAROS: Filming is now complete.

MARK OF THE RANI: This story will now be shown third in order of transmission instead of fourth. It will feature the return of Anthony Ainley as the Master and introduces the Rani, a possible candidate for a regular villainess.

THE TWO DOCTORS: Now to be televised as the 4th story of Season 22 and it should be 'in the can' by the time you read this. Robert Holme's working title for this story was 'The Androgum Inheritance'. Jacqueline Pearce, who played the evil Servalan, steps into the role of Chessene and Laurence Payne plays Dastari.

After a gap of seven years, the Sontarans will return in 'The 2 Doctors', the story penned by their original creator Robert Holmes. They have been redesigned by 'Imagineering' and rumour has it they now stand over six feet tall ! They have now featured in one story of each producer commencing with Barry Letts and in 4 different episode formats: 1973/4:TIME WARRIOR (4) , 1975:SONTARAN EXPERIMENT (2), 1978:INVASION OF TIME (6) & 1985: THE TWO DOCTORS (3).

'Brain of Morbius', the latest DOCTOR WHO release on video , hasn't sold as well as the previous 'Revenge of the Cybermen', probably due to the fact that a full ⅓ of the original version has been cut! As a result it sells for just £20 and the next hotly tipped release is 'Pyramids of Mars'.

EVENTS

SKARO Convention:Tickets are obtainable for £3 (payable to 'Skaro') from Mr G Williams(!) Minicon'84, White Gates, Marstron Lane, FROME, Somerset.It will take place on November 24 in Bath (write for details).

WHO APPRECIATION NORTH TYNESIDE:Tickets £2 50, enquiries to C Taberman,50 Oaktree Ave , Walkerville, Newcastle(Nov'25).

Book News

Released this month to catch the Christmas market are the two annual sets of boxed books selling at £6 50 each.

The 'Annual' atrocity is also now available at £2 99.

NEWS IN BRIEF

BARB/AGB ratings for 'King's Demons' part 1, the first of this summer's repeats, were so low it almost didn't register! However, part 2 improved on 80th position to finish 60th with 5 million viewers. The 'Awakening' compilation only attracted 4·37m and came 62nd. Incidentally, 'Star Trek' has been attracting around 6m for its repeats.

CHRISTOPHER BARRY,longstanding DOCTOR WHO director who made his debut with 'Dead Planet' , is the co-director of the new epic BBC serial 'The Tripods'. Apparently it is being heralded as a possible successor to DOCTOR WHO and the 13 week series commences September 15th, in the Saturday tea-time slot. Ironically, Barry says: "This series could go on and on. It will appeal to all ages , it will be better than DOCTOR WHO and will make the Daleks look puny by comparison." (!)

BBC ENTERPRISES have announced a pre-tax profit of £5·5 million for the year ending March 31 1984, with help from increased American and European sales of BBC programmes including, of course, DOCTOR WHO !

THE NFT will not be holding a DOCTOR WHO weekend this October, and hopes are dying for the rest of 1984.

EQUITY, the actors union, are trying to enforce a law which would result in Marvel having to pay royalties to every actor they use in photos.

JON PERTWEE and Nicholas Courtney were unable to make the Edinburgh play 'Recall UNIT' , which featured John Levene , Richard Franklin and John Scott Martin. Full report next month.

DWAS have re-scheduled 'WhoCon 21 to 13th October 1984.

MARVEL WINTER SPECIAL 1984 has a glut of Jeremy Bentham's Archives plus an interview with Peter Moffat.

BARRY LETTS AND TERRANCE DICKS are leaving the Sunday Classics BBC series next year after 10 years.

RUMOURS:'Ice Warriors'(3) is expected to turn up soon whilst 'Invasion' (1 & 4) are rumoured to be doing the 'video circuit'...'Time-Slash' (or Time-Lash) is thought to be the 5th story of Season 23 by Christopher Bidmead, although this is denied by Pennant Roberts...

SORRY, due to lack of space we can't review 'Key to Time'. It is out later this month and features colour spreads from many stories including 'Shada' and 'Revenge of the Cybermen'.

THE 'MASTER' WRITES...

Dear Gary

Thank you for your letter and for sending me the DWBulletin - even better than the last issue I saw.

You ask how I feel about being voted 'Best Writer'. Gratified and honoured, naturally. But also wary and a little daunted. It means that my next script will arouse great expectations that I may not be able to fulfil.

Sometimes the ingredients in a story just don't jell. I try hard but one should be allowed a few failures. I remember 'The Power of Kroll' as one of my personal all-time clangers.

My own rules - the ingredients - for writing a 'Doctor Who' are few and simple. It is a family show. It covers a spectrum ranging from small children to the elderly but the bulk of its viewers, judging from my correspondence, fall into the highly critical teenage range. So I try to write it to interest all these levels. A good, active adventure for the youngsters. A 'theme' to which the older groups can relate. And a few jokes to remind everyone that it's all intended as sheer entertainment.

It's a simple formula to express but often extremely hard to execute. I hope I can keep trying for a few more years yet.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Holmes

END OF THE ROAD FOR 'SKARO' ?

by Simon Lydiard (Editor of 'SKARO' Magazine)

I'm afraid there will not be an issue of 'Skaro' for quite a while. For some considerable time now the magazine has been running at a loss. It was subsidised by myself and Julian Chislett, but since Julian has ceased taking an active part in things the financial situation has deteriorated. Over the years that 'Skaro' has been running we've had some significant ups and downs, sometimes it seemed like we were going to go down, and sometimes it seemed like we were going to take the fanzine world by storm. However, the situation recently became intolerable and I had little option but to close down the magazine for the moment.

As well as this my enthusiasm for the programme has reached rock bottom. John Nathan-Turner joined DOCTOR WHO with deafening acclaim , including from myself, and has failed to sustain his momentum. He has done a lot for the programme , there's no denying that, but his continued presence in the production office has led the

Yet a third factor in my decision to close down the magazine is my (infant) political career. This year I stood for election to Bath City Council as a Labour candidate in a staunch Tory area, but for '86 I have been selected for a marginal seat, which I fully intend to win. I hold quite a few positions in the Labour Party and I'm also the Organiser of the local branch of a trade union, as well as having a full-time career in the civil service. Given all these factors, plus a desire to attempt to pick up my academic career, you can probably understand why, even if I could afford it, it would be impractical for me to continue the magazine. (By the way, I am also writing for 'Fantasy Empire' now.)

I hope I will be able to start publishing 'Skaro' again on an irregular basis. In the meantime, I'm working on an audio fanzine, which should be out in time for November. I'm producing a DOCTOR WHO film— 'The Locksmiths of Time',which should be premiered at this year's 'Skaro' convention (see 'Events' column elsewhere in

Censorship Down-Under

LIKE 'ROBOTS OF DEATH', 'DALEK MASTERPLAN' ANY MANY OTHER STORIES BEFORE IT, 'CAVES OF ANDROZANI' HAS HAD TO FACE THE AUSTRALIAN PROGRAMME CENSORS' SCISSORS AND IT WASN'T TILL JUNE THAT THE AUSTRALIANS FINALLY GOT AROUND TO SEEING A STORY VAGUELY RESEMBLING THE CLASSIC WE IN BRITAIN WERE FORTUNATE IN VIEWING IN ITS GLORIOUS ENTIRETY. RATHER THAN SHOW IT LATER IN THE EVENING, TO SUIT ITS 'A'(ADULT) RATING, THE DECISION WAS TAKEN TO POSTPONE SEASON 21 GIVING THE PROGRAMME CENSORS TIME TO 'MASSACRE' THIS STORY INTO A 'G'(CHILDREN'S) 6 30PM SHOW . EPISODES 2, 3 AND 4 WERE CUT AND EPISODE 4 HAD TO BE SENT BACK TO THE CENSORS AS IT WAS STILL CONSIDERED UNSUITABLE ! A TOTAL OF 4 MINUTES AND 14 SECONDS WAS CUT IN ALL, 2 MINUTES AND 33 SECONDS FROM PART 4 ALONE ! WHAT FOLLOWS IS A COMPLETE RUNDOWN ON THE CUTS , WHERE THEY OCCURED, THEIR LENGTH AND WHAT ACTUALLY WAS CUT. (COMPILED BY DALLAS JONES OF 'DATA EXTRACT', THE AUSTALASIAN 'DOCTOR WHO' NEWSLETTER ISSUE 30).

EPISODE 2. One cut only which occured 5 mins 8 secs into the episode and lasted 55 secs. It occurs after Stotz says to his gunrunners "You can either stick with me or you can stay here". Stotz then goes on to attack Krelper with a knife , pushing him to the ground and forcing him towards the edge of the cliff. Stotz then pulls a pill from his jacket and tells Krelper his boss has given it to him and it takes 10 seconds to work. He then puts it in Krelper's mouth and uses the knife to flick off Krelper's beret. Krelper is then told it is a fake and spits it out.

EPISODE 3. One cut only which occured 3 mins 39 secs into the episode and lasted 46 seconds. It occurs after Jek says "...Eight kilos for the next shipment" and then turns and savagely strikes the Dr . He then goes on to tell the Dr "When I ask a question I do not expect flippancy" and then continues "Where is the girl ? Where is Peri ?" The Dr replies "I wish I knew". Jek then turns to his androids and he tells them "Take him, tear his arms out slowly". The androids grab the Dr's arms and start doing as they have been ordered. Sharaz Jek then says to the Dr "You know the power an android can exert Dr, after your arms they will remove your legs. Now, where is the girl !?" The Dr in great pain replies "I don't know, we got into a shootout with one of your androids and she disappeared". Jek in a fury then says "You can't protect them , I'll tear the truth out of you". The Dr then gasps "I think she is with Salateen" . that case they have probably reached the army camp". Sharaz Jek then tells the androids to release the Dr, they do so and he falls to the ground.

EPISODE 4. Four cuts occur in this episode. The first after 3 mins 18 secs which lasts for 58 seconds, the second after 9 mins 2 secs which lasts for 32 seconds, the third after 11 mins 29 secs which lasts for 14 seconds and the last after 17 mins 17 secs which lasts 49 seconds.

The first cut is after General Chellak tells Salateen"... very well Major, carry on" and leaves. Salateen then moves forward leading his men and is confronted by an android.He tells his men "Come on , keep moving, it won't fire".The android promptly shoots him down also killing a number of the troops.Chellak's group arrives and manages to shoot the android which bursts into flames and is destroyed. Chellak then walks over to Salateen's body and orders his men forward.The beginning of the next scene is also cut which shows the Dr being chased and shot at by Krelper and another gunrunner.

The second cut in the episode occurs after Chellak is pushed through a door by Sharaz Jek . He screams "Jek ! Jek !" as a mud-burst rushes towards him . Then follows a cut back to Jek who moves over to Peri, who is sitting with a blanket covering herself. Jek tells her "Nothing can hurt you now" and he lifts her head up and she sees his uncovered face. Peri screams and this causes Jek to scream and cower away under a table. His screams die down to pitiful moans.

The third cut is after Stotz agrees to go with Morgus as he has some scores to settle with Sharaz Jek. He then turns to the two gunrunners and says "Bye, Krelper" and follows on after Morgus. Then follows a brief scene where we see that Stotz has stopped around the corner, then returns and guns down the two men with a smile on his face and then turns and leaves.

The last cut occurs after Jek removes his mask and yells at Morgus "Look at me !" He then repeats this and rushes to both Morgus and Stotz, striking them down, they then struggle. Stotz is quickly shaken off and Jek continues to strangle Morgus as they thrash across the room. Jek tries to push Morgus's head into a scientific instrument. Stotz shoots at Jek four times,but Jek, in great pain, continues. The Salateen android appears , killing Stotz with a hail of bullets. Jek manages to turn Morgus around and, facing him, finally manages to push Morgus into the instrument, killing him. Jek then turns and moves toward the Salateen android.

AGGIECON 2

BY ALEC CHARLES

ORGANISER:Alec Charles.

LOCATION:Ealing (London).

ATTENDANCE:200.

GUESTS:Richard Franklin, Pennant Roberts & Chris Tranchell.

PRICE:£3 (One day).

DATE:Saturday July 21st 1984.

Aggie-Con 2 must be one of the longest non - stop one day events ever held. Doors opened at eight in the morning and closed finally at 7 15 in the evening —but what happened in those eleven and a quarter hours ? Well, I'll start at the beginning (missing out any mentions of the inevitable 'visual material') !

10 30am saw the panel discussion which included David Saunders, David Howe, J.Jeremy Bentham, Dominic May and Jan Vincent-Rudzki. Questions ranged from the banal ("Why haven't I received my last seven issues of 'CT'?"), to the rather interesting points that a just-arrived Richard Franklin put to the panel about fan organisation and the future of DOCTOR WHO. Ian Bresman, our camp compere, introduced Richard Marson along with our 1st guest of the day, Pennant Roberts, who revealed all about Graham William's attitudes about Barclaycards in DOCTOR WHO, why he cast Louise Jameson as Leela, and just whose fault the Myrka really was.

The afternoon kicked off with Dominic May presenting the DR WHO quiz 'Doctor-Mind' (we could hardly call it 'Master-Mind' , could we ?). The two teams were led by Gary Russell who heavily beat Richard Marson's.

The second interview had Gary Russell chatting to Chris 'The Massacre', 'Faceless Ones' and 'Invasion of Time' Tranchard . As a friend of Tom Baker's he had some very interesting stories to tell and, as an actor to have worked with three different Doctors and in 3 very different stories (historical, present day and alien planet), I found him especially interesting.

The final guest was Richard Franklin who was particularly enthusiastic about his play : 'Recall U.N.I.T.' up at the Edinburgh fringe. Among the many anecdotes he mentioned - why he felt he'd been written into 'The Five Doctors' at the last moment.

The day ended with the play - 'Opera of Doom', a comedy featuring well-known DWAS names.

Finally, I hope everyone who was there enjoyed the event ; thankyou to those people who have written to me (especially when you weren't that rude !). Those that missed it I hope to see you next time—we've some big things lined up including a two day coach-tour, a DR WHO /Blakes 7 event, and a large as possible DOCTOR WHO one ... watch this space for details .

LEISURE HIVE

BY MARY MILTON

ORGANISERS:Lee Bougourd, Tony Cherrington & Mary Milton.

LOCATION:Swindon (Wiltshire).

ATTENDANCE:300

GUESTS:Tony Attwood (writer of the 'Blakes 7' Programme Guide and the forthcoming 'Blakes 7' book from W.H.Allen) , Janet Fielding, John Levene, Pennant Roberts, Dee Robson (costume designer), Mark Strickson (& wife Julie) & Michael Wisher.

PRICE:£6 one day, £12 for two.

DATE:August 4th and 5th 1984 .

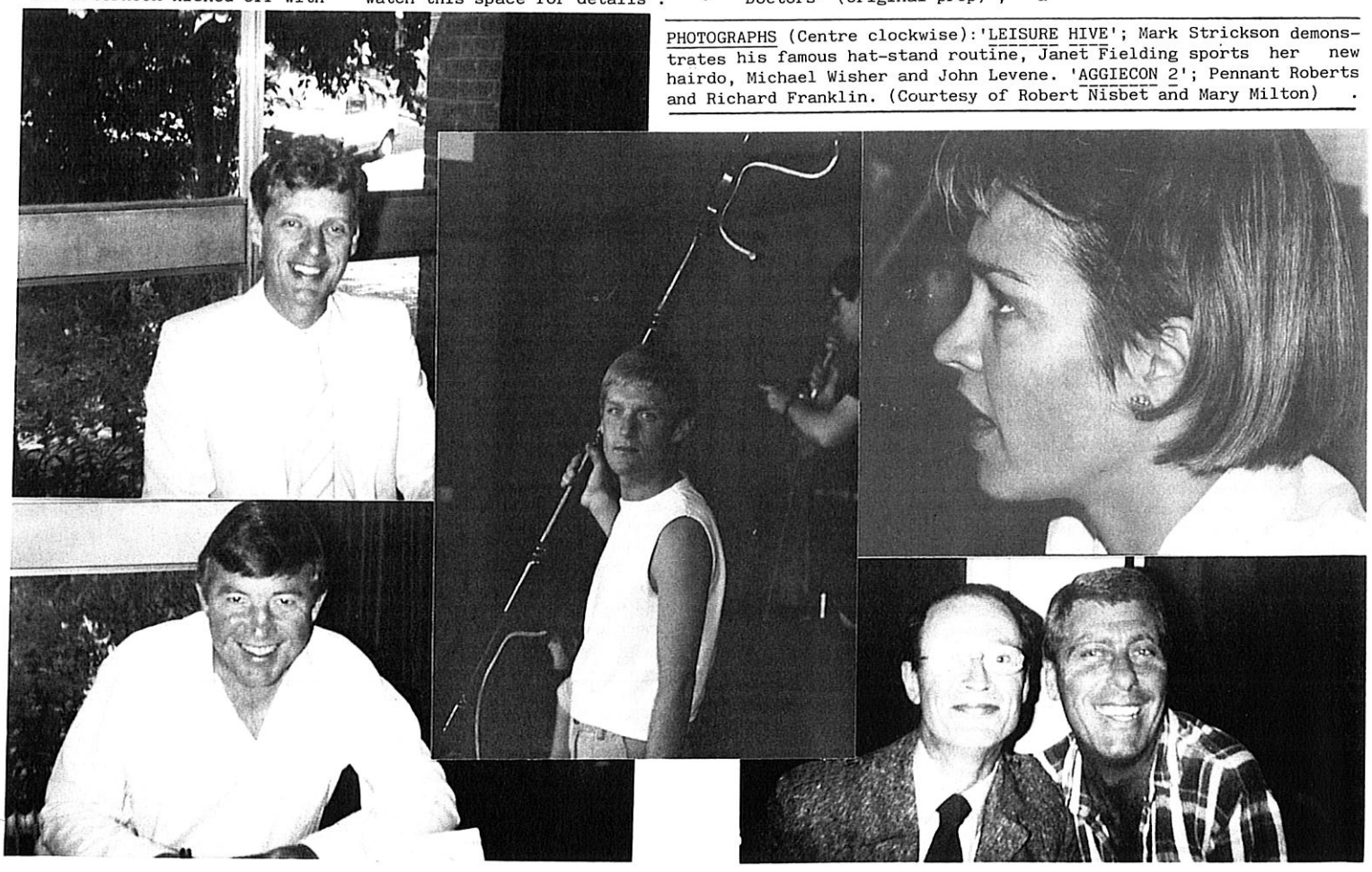
Over the weekend all the guests did at least one panel discussion, wherein the attendees could ask their own questions. On Saturday night there was a caberet in which several of the guests took part. Mark and Julie sung the song Mark had written for the Chicago convention last year (he revealed he had written much of it on the plane!), Michael(Davros)Wisher recited ridiculous verse and John Levene performed the theme song of the convention, the sixties hit 'Chain Gang', as part of a band. After the results of the fancy dress competition had been announced the evening ended with a disco.

The highlight of the Sunday was definitely the charity auction. Some of the items up for auction included a map of the Death Zone from 'The Five Doctors' (original prop) , a 'Shada' script and a hat-stand which was 'demonstrated' by Mark Strickson !

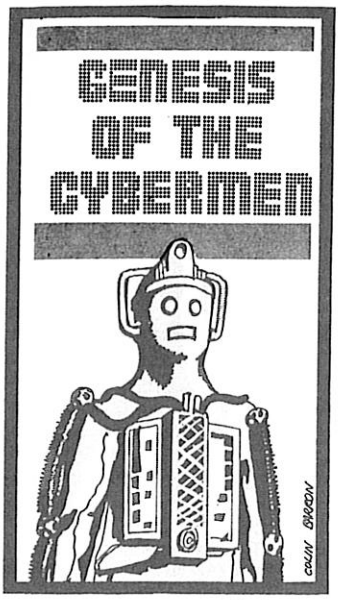
More panel sessions followed, during which Janet Fielding - revealed that members of the cast of 'Resurrection of the Daleks' actually used the bottom halves of Daleks for go-cart racing and Michael Wisher demonstrated his talent for Dalek voices !

The convention ended with the closing ceremony at 6pm, the hotel staff had been wonderful and the attendees rewarded all of them with a standing ovation.

I hope everyone enjoyed the event—I certainly did. If you did, then 'Leisure Hive' is back again next year, 3rd and 4th of August again at the Wiltshire Hotel in Swindon . Information will be available soon so...Watch This Space !



PHOTOGRAPHS (Centre clockwise):'LEISURE HIVE'; Mark Strickson demonstrates his famous hat-stand routine, Janet Fielding sports her new hairdo, Michael Wisher and John Levene. 'AGGIECON 2'; Pennant Roberts and Richard Franklin. (Courtesy of Robert Nisbet and Mary Milton) .



Eighteen years ago this month a strange creature made its debut on the snowy wastes of an Antarctic landscape which had been created at the BBC's Ealing Film Studios. Looking like a cross between robots and humans, the Cybermen were the brainchild of a very distinguished doctor and scientist called Kit Pedler.

Christopher Magnus Howard Pedler, to give him his full name, was born in 1928 in London and graduated in Medicine in 1953. The following year he took a job in Pathology at the Institute of Ophthalmology in London, where he remained for the next eighteen years of his working life. In 1961 he gained a Ph.D. and the year after became director of the Anatomy Department at the Institute. Dr Pedler's special interest was electron microscopy of the eye and during the sixties he published a large number of scientific papers on the nature of vision.

It was through all this scientific work that he first came to the attention of the BBC. A 'Horizon' film crew had come to Dr Pedler's laboratory to do a feature on electron-microscopy. So impressed were they with his apparent wealth of ideas that they passed on their impressions to Innes Lloyd who had just taken over as producer of DOCTOR WHO. Lloyd was looking for a real scientist to advise his writers and immediately asked Dr Pedler to contribute some story ideas.

Pedler's first storyline, about a mad computer in the Post Office Tower, was subsequently realized by Ian Stuart Black as 'The War Machines', and was a success. Following this instant hit, Pedler was asked to write a complete script for the 2nd story of the 1966-67 season, preferably featuring a new monster to rival the Daleks.

Several authors had already tried to come up with a new 'WHO monster and had failed. But Kit Pedler was no ordinary writer. As well as being a brilliant doctor he was a painter, a sculptor and a builder of racing cars !

Pedler's spark of inspiration for the Cybermen came one day when he was discussing the question of spare-part surgery with his psychiatrist wife Una. Suddenly he conceived the idea of someone who:"Had so many spare parts that he didn't know whether he was a human or a machine". His notion of a half-man, half-machine was subsequently refined at a meeting with Innes Lloyd and Gerry Davis, then script-editor. Some concepts such as having arms emerging at waist-level were rejected for budgetary reasons and the final design was essentially a compromise between what was envisaged and what was practical.However, Kit Pedler was pleased with the final costume and Innes Lloyd recalls that Kit "always seemed to feel the original Cybermen were very much the creatures he had imagined".

Further confirmation of this view came in a BBC Radio interview in the early seventies when Pedler was quizzed about his inspiration for the Cybermen and came up with this reply : "I was looking out my office window when suddenly I saw a flying saucer land beside the Post Office Tower and several silver beings get out". This little daydream was eventually incorporated into episode three of 'The Moonbase' as the tense climax to an already action-packed episode.

FACT, OR FICTION?

Popular as the Daleks may be, there's no doubt that they are rather implausible. After all, how can a one-eyed mechanical dustbin build all these cities and spaceships when it only has a bathroom sucker for a hand ? By contrast, the Cybermen, humans with mechanical body replacements, are actually within the bounds of possibility.

For decades, scientists have been experimenting with artificial body organs and the Cyberman's chest unit —— mechanical heart and lungs —— is a scientific fact. Cardiac (heart) surgeons use such a device, known as a Cardiopulmonary bypass machine, every time they do open heart surgery and a portable unit could easily be developed. Whether people would want to go around with their heart and lungs stuck in a big box on their chest is a different matter. A few years ago American scientists developed a portable kidney machine which could be worn as a series of pouches around the waist, but the idea was later rejected as it was felt that such a contraption would constantly remind kidney patients of their affliction.

The power-driven limbs of the Cybermen are not all that far off either. Some of DWB's readers may have seen the BBC documentary dealing with PC Philip Olds and his efforts to walk again after spinal injury, using a powered exo-skeleton developed by American scientists. Such devices are at very early stages of development and require an external source of power but they do show that the Cybernetic body with the strength of ten men is a theroretical possibility.

Similarly, the artificial eye and ear are also possible and have actually existed for some time as the television camera and microphone respectively. Several years ago American scientists provided a totally blind man with a very crude form of vision by connecting the output of a TV camera to a number of electrodes which were inserted into several points in the Cerebral cortex. The problem with such devices is that their electrical output is not in a form which the human nervous system can readily "understand".The brain sends its messages as coded electrical signals known as 'action potentials' and what is required is some sort of micro-chip device which can convert the output of a TV camera or microphone into action potentials that the brain can understand.

Turning now to another Cyberman feature —the flat emotionless personality created by neurosurgery. Is this a possibility ? The answer is—Yes, it is. It has been known for some time that patients with brain damage due to injury or tumours can undergo strange changes in personality due to destruction of crucial areas of the brain called the frontal lobes. Sometimes these people become aggressive and violent but others become devoid of emotion and have difficulty in forming relationships, rather like the Cybermen. At one time, such brain damage was deliberately induced in a surgical procedure known as prefrontal lobotomy as it was felt that it might have therapeutic benefit in certain mental illnesses . However, the procedure fell into disrepute once the long-term effects became known and is seldom practised now.

One feature of the Cybermen which does not make any scientific sense is their sensitivity to gold, an idea first introduced in the 1975 serial 'Revenge of the Cybermen' which was scripted by Gerry Davis without any contribution from Kit Pedler. Gold is a remarkably unreactive metal which is often given by intramuscular injection for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. The statement in this story that gold was "inimicable to the Cybermen's function because it was a pure metal" was nothing more than scientific gobbledegook ! Kit Pedler would never have come up with such an idea.

Other ridiculous concepts in 'Revenge' included a planet of gold (unlikely), the Cybermen using radar to track people in underground tunnels (impossible) and, worst of all, the Cyberbombs.At one point in the story we were told that these were the most powerful explosives known with two or three of them being sufficient to destroy an entire planet. Yet, when one of them was detonated in a suicidal act, it exploded with a tiny flash and a little puff of smoke which only harmed people within a radius of a few feet. Kit Pedler would <u>never</u> have written <u>that</u>.

Of course, it would be wrong to view the Cybermen purely on a materialistic-level. Kit Pedler once described them as: "The antithesis of everything that I conceive to be human". But his creations were also meant as a warning to us all about the dangers of a highly bureaucratic society based on high technology. We are <u>all</u> in danger of becoming Cybermen, flat emotionless beings lacking in love for our fellow man simply as a result of the "brainwashing" of modern life. We are now used to the sight of death on our TV screens about which we feel no emotion . Similarly we are conditioned from birth to obey figures in authority.

This concept of human beings being controlled by others is central to all of Kit Pedler's work from 'War Machines' all through to 'Doomwatch'. It is interesting that he called the head Cyberman in 'Tomb of the Cybermen' the "Cyberman Controller" and not the "Cyberleader" of recent years. All the early Cyber-serials feature scenes in which humans are hypnotised and forced to commit treacherous acts ——a frightening concept which has been absent from the last two comic-strip orientated Cybermen stories.

Sadly, Kit Pedler died in 1981, only a few months before his creations returned once more in 'Earthshock'. His writing partner, Gerry Davis, now lives in Venice in California where he works as a writer and script-editor, recent credits including cop show 'Vegas' and the 1980 Kirk Douglas movie 'The Final Countdown'. He has a house in Hornsey, London, which he visits occasionally. Innes Lloyd is still a producer with the BBC and is currently working on a 60's Moscow spy drama.

With 'Attack of the Cybermen' only a few months away let us hope that this serial does not feature any of the silliness of recent years and returns to some of the brillant concepts that Kit Pedler devised nearly two decades ago.

'A PROFESSIONAL FANZINE' by Gary Russell

On taking on the mantle at Marvel that was once carried by Messrs. Bentham and Landen was no mean feat—and I HAD to do something different. Part of my brief was to make it a 'Professional Fanzine', hence my appointment. I had known Alan McKenzie since doing 'CT' for DWAS and we had always got on—basically because we both possess a rather cynical outlook on DOCTOR WHO, both as a programme and as a hobby, as well as both liking movies, Harrison Ford, Jacqueline Pearce and Caroline Munro !

To that end, I decided to take a close look at the readership. Sales had increased rapidly during Landen's run(!) and have — thank God — steadily continued that trend. This meant that Joe and Jean Public must like what they saw. To say that the average reader doesn't know that 'The Gunfighters' was a Hartnell story and that the Yeti were a Troughton foe is grossly underestimating the readers. I can only go by Matrix Data Bank (approximately 300-400 letters a month !!), but it seems that the whole J. Public family not only know Hartnell met the Gunfighters, but also that it was the lowest rated story, starred Laurence Payne and William Hurndall and had a song sung by Lynda Baron. They've seen that info in the mag, in J-ML's Programme Guides, in the Quiz Books etc. What they want to know now, after nearly 100 issues, and 22 years of DOCTOR WHO is what exactly those ratings were, whether Laurence Payne is the same actor in 'Leisure Hive' (and presumably 'The Two Doctors'), what relation William and Richard Hurndall are, and is the singer Lynda, Eternal Lynda from 'Enlightenment' ! Even the ten year olds know the stuff . If I knew, or JJB knew or Richard Landen knew at 10 what they know at 10—I'd soon be eligible for Mastermind !!

To say Justin's article was too fannish for the Monthly (sorry —ODW Magazine) is a compliment—it was intended as such — last November Alan was asking for such things — and he's got them . He specifically asked me to use Shada writers or anyone big from fandom—and if possible reprint certain articles. I don't want to do the latter (although you can expect a toned down version of Martin Wiggin's 'Whinning Ninnies' from Shada 18 / 19 / 20 to turn up before long), but I've certainly employed some people from DWAS—Justin, David Howe, Marc Platt, Gary Hopkins, Martin Wiggins, Steven Mercer and Stephen James Walker, and I feel justified in doing so. a) Because I feel (and it must be stressed, so does Alan otherwise he would okay things) that they are adequate enough writers and fully capable of writing concise articles to given perimeters and excesses. I won't say I haven't edited their stuff—I'm in the unenviable position of having to get my own stuff approved of, as well as theirs. If you want examples, and I hope I'm not summarily executed for this, Marc Platt's History of the Ice Warriors tended to be a bit too flowery so I cut one or two OTT lines, Steve Mercer's History of the Silurians was factually innacurate (on a non-DW point) and I chose to, hopefully anyway, correct it ! And b) 'Coz these guys are all mates and I'm doing them a favour.

You suggest that my 'Warriors' review was hypocritical. I argue it wasn't—I don't loathe that story (only rarely do I find myself agreeing with the majority over DOCTOR WHO stories), but my review was, accidentally, 'doctored', losing a very important line which read something like "Warriors of the Deep was, by no stretch of the imagination, a flawless story". Exit the middle and on the page it read "Warriors of the Deep was a flawless story" Arrgh ! But I totally disagree with you on an editor's job. I believe that an editor's job (now I'm talking 'bout Shada folks) is to piece a mag together. My reviews are commisioned - long in advance and so I cannot tell my reviewers what to say.If I did, why get writers in ? I might just as well write everything for Shada myself. I am capable of slagging off DOCTOR WHO, my ODWM for 'Twin Dilemma' was hardly nice comparing a JN-T story to 'Horns of Nimon' and my 'Planet of Fire' review was indeed written through the proverbial gritted teeth. Now, Tim Westmacott in his letter says two things of interest: presumably still, justifiably, narked over the Longleat cock-up, he decides to tell everyone exactly how Marvel works. Tim might think he's doing everyone a service by suggesting why he assumes Richard Landen, and in doing so paints a picture of my predecessor as a lazy so-and-so. Shame no one asks Richard for his reasons instead of slandering him like that. Now, Tim's point. One-No , Mr Westmacott, you can lie easy in your bed at night, you had precisely zilch to do with getting me the 'job' nor Richard Marson. As I said, Alan knew me from when I did CT—he was also aware of the existence of Shada and when Richard resigned he simply asked me if I was interested. I had already submitted stuff a year or so beforehand (which got lost) but obviously I

"IN THEIR OWN IMAGE : FROM SKARO TO TELOS" The Daleks and the Cybermen are each on a quest for ultimate power. Could either of them ever achieve it? Peter Martin investigates the matter.

"NO SENSE OF CRIME" In the second episode of the latest "Doctor Who" fiction by Michael Emmerson, the arrival of the Doctor, Turlough and Tegan on the pleasure planet Teiros has coincided with the death of a young girl tourist. Will the Doctor be able to convince the security guards that the travellers are innocent?

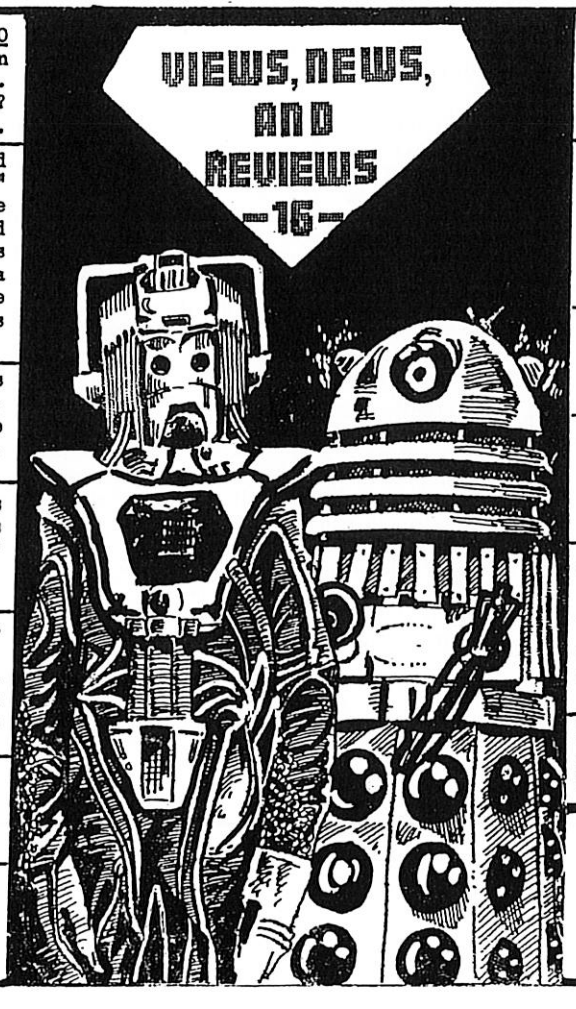
VIDEO REVIEW Colin Borthwick reviews the first two BBC "Doctor Who" videos, featuring the stories "Revenge of the Cybermen" and "The Brain of Morbius". Are they worth buying or not?

THE GREAT DEBATE Were the stories produced by Graham Williams as bad as popular opinion would seem to suggest? Sid Smith presents a new viewpoint on this much-discussed era.

"THE GENERATION SHIP" In the latest comic-strip story by Ernie Phillips, the third Doctor is stranded on an extraordinary craft with a mysterious alien, a collection of Autons and the Master. Why has this situation arisen?

LOCAL GROUP REPORT Chris Taberham brings us up to date on the activities of the Tyneside-based DWAS Local Group in its first few months of existence.

FANZINE FORUM Paul Williams bravely risks life and limb by reviewing two other recently-produced "Doctor Who" fanzines.



SURREALISM IN "DOCTOR WHO" Should "Doctor Who" place unbelievable images in ridiculous settings? Alec Fox analyses the concept of surrealism and its applicability to the series.

VNR BOOK REVIEWS Robert Fox and Paul Williams review the "Doctor Who Quiz Book of Science" and the recent novelisations of "Enlightenment", "The Five Doctors", "The Dominators", "Inferno", "Warriors of the Deep", "The Aztecs" and "The Highlanders".

THE WORKS OF CHRIS BOUCHER VNR's longest-running series finally ends with an examination of Chris Boucher's three stories by Paul Williams.

WORTH THINKING ABOUT Two writers are given the chance to air their contrasting views on any aspect of "Doctor Who". This issue sees the turn of Paul Vyse and Alec Fox.

Colin Borthwick's CROSSWORD If you can name the brother of Arak, the solar system including the planet Urbanka, and the discoverer of the double-nexus particle, you will have already solved three of the clues ....but there are fifty-eight more!

YOUR VIEWS Readers' letters to VNR
ARTWORK by Paul Vyse
NEWS An update on what's been going on

"Views News and Reviews" issue 16 has forty A5 pages (reduced from A4 and B4) and costs only £1 plus an A5 SAE or £1-25 all inclusive from : COLIN BORTHWICK, 13 GEORGE RD, WALLSEND, TYNE AND WEAR NE28 6BU.

stuck in his memory. Richard Marson had, however, submitted his first few interviews totally independently a good six months previously. Although we both had our work premiered together, he was already around before moi. Secondly, Tim decides (as do a lot of people) to accuse me of writing "lifeless pulp with JN-T and Alan McKenzie acting as the two sides of a vice".Sounds like sour grapes to me, Tim, just because your fanzine column didn't come off. Actually, I don't mind my writing being slagged off as "lifeless pulp", I'm used to it—either my so-called 'style' of writing appeals to people or it doesn't, I've coped with that fact for nearly five years. But to accuse JN-T and Alan McKenzie of being a vice is totally untrue. Alan acts purely as a professional editor—assembling a magazine and going grey if copy doesn't arrive. JN-T, on t'other hand, leaves well alone. He has never cut a single word from a review of mine, and is unlikely to do so—he and I know eachother well enough for me to know what goes into a professional review without being offensive or derogatory. Afterall, there's little point in Marvel producing a magazine specifically geared towards one, narrow market and expecting people to buy it if all they are going to read is page upon page tearing apart what they like enough to spend 60p on . The only things JN-T has touched were my first three previews of Season 21 (the first things I wrote for Marvel) in which I gave far too much plot away. Since then it's always been factual mistakes on my part (ie I said in the preview that Howard tries to drown Peri and he corrected that). Leave JN-T and Marvel alone, Tim, you haven't the foggiest notion what you are talking about.

Finally, I'm afraid YOU, Gary, contradict yourself, by inference at least. In your original critique you accuse me of going too deep into DOCTOR WHO with articles that Joe and Jean Public won't like, and then you say Dominic May is talking " baloney " when he says we're running out of new material. Well, apart from stuff from new stories (hardly enough for 12 issues per year plus two specials), there isn't a lot left without going deeper. Remember, I have to fill approximately 15 sides of printed page a month which is a very great deal and I haven't yet sussed how Messrs. Bentham and Landen coped (valium I suspect). Just as a sideline, the average one page of Matrix Data Bank equals five sides of double spaced A4 typed manuscripts. That's nearly '80' A4 typed pages a month—or would be if there weren't lots of pictures in the magazine. It's actually about one issue's worth of Shada a month—and that's a lot ! I have to eat, sleep and (contrary to lot of peoples ideas) I am NOT employed by Marvel , I work as well. Then there's a certain degree of social life ... (sinks into groans of self-pity...).

Anyway, I hope this has provided a bit of food for thought...

We preview THE 5 DOCTORS:- THE UNSCREENED TRAILER.
FAR, FAR AWAY, AT THE EYE OF ORION...
WAS AMATTA, GEEBER? ARE PARTS OF YOUR PAST BEING TAKEN AWAY, JOC? IS THAT IT ?
NO--INDIGESTION
He the alien's weak eh.
IN THE FREAK EDDY IN THE VORTEX...
MEANWHILE, IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS...
CACKLE, CACKLE! HEH, HEH! I HAVE THE FIRST DOCTOR...
THE CHANNEL 4 VIDEO NASTY SHOW
RASSILON WORE ERS
SOON I'LL TERRORIZE THE COSMOS WITH MY SILLY HAT AND IVORY BOXED FLEA CIRCUS!
WAIT... SOMETHINGS WRONG WITH THE MONITOR SCREEN. SO A FREAK EDDY IN THE VORTEX... SOME DARK MAGIC ON THE SCREEN. A DOCTOR IS STUCK. MY PAUTOY SET WILL NEVER BE COMPLETE
AND IN THE BOWELS OF THE BARBICAN - CENTRE...
AHHH... A FREAK EDDY IN THE VORTEX... CAUSES CHANGING COSTUMES AND REPEATED SCENES FROM A LAID-OFF EPISODE!
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT! WE'LL BE IN YOUR 'BLOOMIN' 90 MINUTE SPECIAL JUST LET US OUT, NATHAN-TURNER!
A SUICIDAL TALEK? YUCK.. LOOK AT ALL THAT HORRIBLE GREEN ODZE COMING OUT OF IT!
SILLY SIMON LE BON!
ELSWHERE, IN THE SUBTERRANEAN CAVES OF TEBBLE-MILL :-
YEAH, ST.
IT'S--A YETI!!
GRRR
YES, MY DEAR... IT APPEARS THAT EVEN IN THIS GODFORSAKEN PLACE WE CANNOT ESCAPE YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S CHEESE AND ONION PIE! AND WHO THE HELLS SIMON LE BON?
YESTERDAY... THE GALAXY!
TODAY... THE UNIVERSE!
TOMORROW... THE COSMOS!
MECANO
IN THE GROUNDS OF JON PERTWEE'S TEN ACRE FIELD...
NO, IT'S JOHN NATHAN-TURNER WANTING HIS WIG AND FUR-COAT BACK!
NO, SORRY CAN'T MAKE TO THE 'STAG AND HIND' TONIGHT
EX-CEL-LENT! (MY FAVOURITE TUNE IN THE SHOW!)
C'MON, BESSIE, OLD GIRL! THAT THERE BLACK THING BE AUNT SALLY AF'ER 'ER 'OUSE KEEPIN', IT BE, ARR!
ALL THIS AND MORE ON 25th NOVEMBER, '83 :- IF THE SUSPENSE DON'T GETCHA, THE CYBERMEN WILL!

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WANTED:Old DW Annuals(pre'74), any of 1st series of Dalek annuals, 'Amazing World of D W' (circa '76),'DW & the Pescatons' LP, 'War of the Daleks' game, 1973 RT Special (good con'), DWB (issues 1 & 2). SAE with quoted items and prices required to: Bruce Bunn, The Flat, Suton, Wymondham,Norfolk NR18 9JJ.

WANTED:Letters expressing any views on DOCTOR WHO for a new fanzine coming soon. Letters to:'Argolis' Views Page , 18 Wentworth Court, Darras Hall Estate, Ponteland, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE20 9PR. SAE for a personal reply. 'Argolis' should be out by October, stay tuned !

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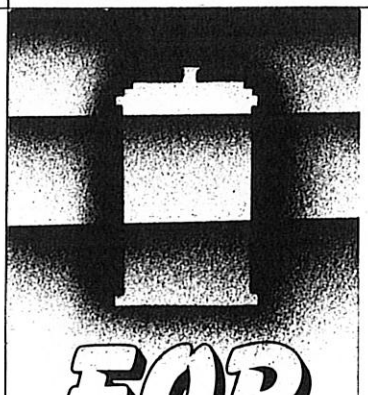

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